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***Town of***

# **Easton**

## **New Hampshire**



### **ONE HUNDRED TWENTIETH ANNUAL REPORT**

**Year Ending  
December 31, 1996**

# ***This Year's Annual Town Report is Dedicated to***



## **JOSEPH DUGGAN**

***Cemetery Trustee, 1989-1995***

***Fire Chief, 1991-1997***

*Joe Duggan epitomizes the ideal small town volunteer official. His public spiritedness, dedication, capacity for and willingness to perform difficult tasks, and, above all, his wonderful personality, will always be gratefully remembered by all who worked with him.*

*As Chairman of the Cemetery Trustees, Joe took the lead in pulling together and reconciling obscure and confusing Town records so that all gravesites could be located and mapped, cemetery rows established and marked, and a permanent computer program record created. As Fire Chief, he oversaw the development of the Easton Fire Department from its infancy into a stable, well-equipped, well-trained, and fiscally responsible established Town institution.*

*A grateful Town salutes Joe Duggan on the occasion of his retirement as Fire Chief.*

# Town of Easton

# ANNUAL REPORT

## of the Town Officers

## for the year ending December 31, 1996

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## **TOWN OFFICERS**

### **Board of Selectmen**

Gregory M. Sorg - 1997

Pamela McLaren - 1998

Mark Brooks - 1999

### **Town Clerk**

Barbara J. Collier

### **Treasurer**

Kim Donovan

### **Auditor**

Ralph Brigida

### **Tax Collector**

Barbara J. Collier

### **Moderator**

Stephen North - 1996  
(resigned 9/96)

### **Lafayette School Board**

Robert Hackett

### **Trustee of Trust Funds**

Mary Ann Chippendale

### **Cemetery Trustees**

Gregory Sorg - 1996

Robert Every - 1997

Carole Hutton - 1998

(resigned 8/96)

Bernice Ford - 10/96

### **Planning Board**

Jim Collier - 1996

Andrew Noyes - 1997

Maurice Rodrigue - 1997

Gregory Sorg - 1998

Mark Brooks (Ex Officio)

### **Library Trustees**

Eunice Woods - 1996

Carole Hutton - 1997

(resigned 8/96)

Nancy Feenstra - 10/96

Priscilla Phipps - 1998

### **Supervisors of the Checklist**

Patricia Every - 1996

Nancy Feenstra - 1998

Lois Hackett - 2000

## **APPOINTED OFFICIALS & BOARD MEMBERS**

### **Fire Chief**

Joseph Duggan

(resigned 12/31/96)

Charles Casey - 1/97

### **Chief of Police**

Robert Every

### **Librarian**

Harriet Taylor

### **Zoning Board**

Robert Every

Dennis Ford

Joseph Exley

Karl Hunninghaus

Marjorie Libby

Pamela McLaren (Ex Officio)

**TOWN OF EASTON  
TOWN MEETING WARRANT  
MARCH 11, 1997**

To the inhabitants of the Town of Easton in the County of Grafton, qualified to vote in Town affairs:

You are hereby notified to meet at the Town Hall in said Town on Tuesday, March 11, 1997. Polls will be open from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. for ballot voting on Article 1. The Town's annual business meeting will follow at 7:00 p.m., to act upon the following subjects:

**ARTICLE 1.** To choose all necessary officers for the ensuing year (ballot vote).

**ARTICLE 2.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$88,672.00 for general Town operations:

|   |               |
|---|---------------|
| 4130 - Executive                            | \$ 6,895.00   |
| 4140 - Election, Registration & Vital Stats | 1,610.00      |
| 4150 - Financial Administration             | 1,815.00      |
| 4152 - Revaluation of Property              | 500.00        |
| 4153 - Legal Expense                        | 500.00        |
| 4155 - Personnel Administration             | 700.00        |
| 4191 - Planning & Zoning                    | 300.00        |
| 4194 - General Government Buildings         | 2,692.00      |
| 4195 - Cemeteries                           | 1,180.00      |
| 4196 - Insurance                            | 4,150.00      |
| 4197 - Advertising & Reg. Associations      | 1,245.00      |
| 4199 - Contingency Fund                     | 5,000.00      |
| 4210 - Police Department                    | 4,300.00      |
| 4215 - Ambulances                           | 1,350.00      |
| 4220 - Fire Department                      | 11,450.00     |
| 4290 - Forest Fire Fighting & Training      | 500.00        |
| 4299 - Communications                       | 1,452.00      |
| 4312 - Highways                             | 24,000.00     |
| 4323 - Hazardous Waste Collection           | 233.00        |
| 4324 - Solid Waste Disposal                 | 12,662.00     |
| 4414 - Animal Control                       | 100.00        |
| 4415 - Health Agencies                      | 1,111.00      |
| 4419 - Hospice                              | 134.00        |
| 4442 - Welfare - General Assistance         | 500.00        |
| 4449 - Tri-County Community Action          | 375.00        |
| 4520 - Recreation Programs                  | 3,168.00      |
| 4550 - Library                              | 300.00        |
| 4612 - Conservation Commission              | 200.00        |
| 4723 - Interest on TAN note                 | <u>250.00</u> |
| TOTAL                                       | \$ 88,672.00  |



**ARTICLE 3.** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the establishment of a Capital Equipment Reserve Fund for the equipment acquisition and replacement for the Easton Fire Department, and to raise and appropriate \$1,000.00 to be placed in this fund towards this purpose, and to accept the sum of \$1,000.00 from the Easton Fire Fighters' Association to offset this appropriation, and to appoint the Selectmen as agents to administer this fund. (The Selectmen recommend this article.)

**ARTICLE 4.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$ 8,925.00 for the purposes of purchasing and installing a new 800 gallon capacity polypropylene water tank. (The Selectmen recommend this article.)

**ARTICLE 5.** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the sale of the 1969 Ford fire engine for a price to be approved by the Selectmen in their discretion, and to raise and appropriate up to \$5,000.00 to be placed into the Capitol Equipment Reserve Fund established under Article 3, such appropriation to be offset by the proceeds of the sale of the fire engine. (The Selectmen recommend this article.)

**ARTICLE 6.** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the establishment of a Capital Reserve Fund for the future revaluation of the Town, and to raise and appropriate \$10,000.00 to be placed in this fund toward this purpose and to appoint the Selectmen as agents to administer this fund. (The Selectmen recommend this article.)

**ARTICLE 7.** To see if the Town will raise and appropriate the sum of \$7,000.00 to resurface as much as possible of Gibson Road, the paved portion of Paine Road near the Craven property, Beaver Meadow, the Town Hall parking lot, and the fire station driveway, in that order, with a bituminous liquefied asphalt coating. (The Selectmen recommend this article.)

**ARTICLE 8.** To see if the Town will vote to fly, beneath the American flag on the Town Hall flagpole, a second MIA flag to be provided by the Littleton VFW.

**ARTICLE 9.** To see if the Town will raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000.00 to be placed into the Town Hall Windows Replacement Capital Reserve Fund established at the 1996 Town Meeting. (The Selectmen recommend this article.)

**ARTICLE 10.** To see if the Town will raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,000.00 to begin the process of clearing, cleaning up and seeding the land added to the Kinsman Cemetery on its east end by the boundary line agreement with the Paine Estate. (The Selectmen recommend this article.)

**ARTICLE 11.** To see if the Town will vote to modify the elderly exemptions from property tax in the Town of Easton, based on assessed value, for qualified taxpayers, in order that it shall be as follows: for a person 65 years of age up to 75 years, \$5,000.00; for a person 75 years up to 80 years, \$10,000.00; and for a person 80 years of age or older, \$20,000.00. To qualify, the person must have been a New Hampshire resident for at least 5 years, own the real estate individually or jointly, or if the real estate is owned by such person's spouse, they must have been married for at least 5 years. In addition, the taxpayer must have a net income of not more than \$13,400.00 or, if married, a combined net income or not more than \$20,000.00 and own assets not in excess of \$35,000.00 excluding the value of the person's residence. (This article must be voted by ballot.) (The Selectmen recommend this article.)

**ARTICLE 12.** To see if the Town will vote to require the Selectmen hereafter to retain all surplus funds until such funds have accumulated in an amount at least equal to fifteen (15) percent of the Town's total county, school and town expenditures during the immediately preceding fiscal year; and thereafter to maintain such surplus in such amount unless required otherwise by law or by vote of a future Town Meeting. (The Selectmen recommend this article.)

**ARTICLE 13.** To see if the Town will vote to discontinue the Easton Public Library effective immediately, and to authorize the Library Trustees, subject to the approval of the Commissioner of Cultural Affairs, to loan or dispose of the Library property of the Town. (Petitioned Article)

**ARTICLE 14.** To see if the Town, in the event that the preceding article has passed, will vote to raise and appropriate the greater of \$250.00 or an amount equal to the unexpended portion of the 1996 Library budget to defray any Library closing costs, including, but not necessarily limited to book appraisals and any necessary or convenient classifying, advertising or removal costs. (Petitioned Article) (The Selectmen recommend this article.)

**ARTICLE 15.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$20,000.00 to be used, along with the \$5,000.00 set aside by Article 10 at the 1996 Annual Meeting for the purpose of soliciting bids and awarding contracts for the completion of the following Town Hall renovations during FY 1997:

1. Replacement of all windows with vinyl-clad, double paned energy efficient windows.
2. Repair of all exterior trim by applying vinyl, if feasible, or by painting if the only alternative.
3. Cleaning of the most soiled areas of the existing vinyl siding, particularly in the vicinity of the handicap entrance ramp.
4. Replacement of the kitchen ceiling with a vinyl or vinyl-like paneling that would be attractive, rodent resistant and maintenance friendly.

The Selectmen shall be appointed as agents to administer this fund. (The Selectmen do not recommend this article.) (Petitioned Article)

**ARTICLE 16.** To act upon any other business that may legally come before this meeting.

Gregory Sorg  
Pamela McLaren  
Mark Brooks  
Selectmen of Easton

## SELECTMEN'S REPORT

The year 1996 was a quiet one in Easton. As voted by the Town Meeting on March 12, 1996, the fire house construction note was paid off, and \$5,000 was placed in a capital reserve fund for future replacement of the Town Hall's windows. The resurfacing of the paved (south) half of Paine Road was completed, with sufficient material left over to resurface a portion of the Town Hall parking lot. All Town-financed activities have kept within their budgets, except for the Fire Department, for which \$1,000 was advanced from the contingency fund towards the purchase of the newest fire truck. This sum will be reimbursed to the Town by the Fire Fighters' Association, should the Town vote to accept the warrant article devoted to that purpose.

Favorable weather not only kept highway expenses within budget but enabled funds to be allocated towards improving the turn-around on Gingerbread Road. With the end of the litigation involving the Cooley Estate property, substantial progress has been made towards redemption of the past-due taxes on that land.

Although the overall Easton tax rate continues its disturbing trend of recent years to rise sharply, it should be noted that this rise has been due almost entirely to the component for support of the Lafayette and Profile School Districts voted by residents of those districts and shown as "School" on the tax bills, over which the Selectmen have no authority or control. The only one of the three components of the tax rate over which the Selectmen exercise control, which arises out of the votes of the Town Meeting each year and is shown as "Town" on the tax bills, has actually decreased in recent years, both in amount and as a percentage of the total tax rate.

The Selectmen anticipate no major new initiatives during 1997, but are concerned that the time for a new reappraisal of the Town is drawing near, for which sufficient funds must be raised soon. Certain road improvement actions are expected to be carried out, which would include replacement of the culvert under Ruskin Road nearest its intersection with Loop Road, resurfacing of Gibson Road, resurfacing or oiling of Beaver Meadow Road, and oiling of the Fire Department driveway, the Town Hall parking lot, and the paved portion of Paine Road near the Craven property.

Selectmen, Town of Easton

Gregory M. Sorg  
Pamela A. McLaren  
Mark Brooks



# BUDGET OF THE TOWN OF EASTON - REVENUE

| SOURCES OF REVENUE                               | Estimated<br><u>1996</u> | Actual<br><u>1996</u> | Estimated<br><u>1997</u> |
|--|--------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| Taxes:   |                          |                       |                          |
| 3120 Land Use Change Taxes                       | \$ -0-                   | \$ 2,500.00           | \$ -0-                   |
| 3185 Yield Taxes                                 | 2,300.00                 | 2,370.00              | 4,860.00                 |
| 3190 Interest & Penalties on<br>Delinquent Taxes | 3,000.00                 | 4,803.00              | 3,000.00                 |
| Licenses, Permits and Fees:                      |                          |                       |                          |
| 3210 Business Licenses and Permits               | 100.00                   | 18.00                 | 200.00                   |
| 3220 Motor Vehicle Permit Fees                   | 25,000.00                | 27,534.00             | 26,500.00                |
| 3230 Building Permits                            | 200.00                   | 160.00                | 150.00                   |
| 3290 Other Licenses, Permits & Fees              | 350.00                   | 504.00                | 100.00                   |
| 3311-3319 From Federal Government                | 10,417.00                | 10,417.00             | 8,000.00                 |
| From State:                                      |                          |                       |                          |
| 3351 Shared Revenue                              | 2,475.00                 | 4,518.00              | 2,695.00                 |
| 3352 Meals & Rooms Tax Distribution              | 5,368.00                 | 5,368.00              | 5,869.00                 |
| Charges for Services:                            |                          |                       |                          |
| 3401-3406 Income from Departments                | 150.00                   | 10.00                 | -0-                      |
| Miscellaneous Revenues:                          |                          |                       |                          |
| 3502 Interest on Investments                     | 1,000.00                 | 1,316.00              | 1,000.00                 |
| 3503-3509 Other                                  | 1,000.00                 | 2,216.00              | 1,000.00                 |
| Interfund Operating Transfers In:                |                          |                       |                          |
| 3915 Capital Reserve Funds                       | -0-                      | -0-                   | 5,000.00                 |
| Other Financing Sources:                         |                          |                       |                          |
| Amounts Voted from "Surplus"                     | <u>-0-</u>               | <u>49,503.00</u>      | <u>-0-</u>               |
| Total Revenues                                   | \$51,360.00              | \$111,237.00          | \$58,374.00              |

## BUDGET SUMMARY

|   |                  |
|---|------------------|
| Subtotal 1 Recommended  | \$88,672.00      |
| Subtotal 2 "Individual" Warrant Articles                            | 37,175.00        |
| Subtotal 3 Special Warrant Articles                                 | <u>21,000.00</u> |
| Total Appropriations Recommended                                    | 146,847.00       |
| Less: Amount of Estimated Revenues<br>(Exclusvie of Property Taxes) | <u>58,374.00</u> |
| Amount of Taxes To Be Raised  | \$ 88,473.00     |

## BUDGET OF THE TOWN OF EASTON - EXPENDITURES

| PURPOSE OF APPROPRIATION                                | Estimated<br><u>1996</u> | Actual<br><u>1996</u> | Estimated<br><u>1997</u> |
|---|--------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| General Government:                                     |                          |                       |                          |
| 4130-4139 Executive                                     | \$ 7,495.00              | \$ 6,027.00           | \$ 6,895.00              |
| 4140-4149 Election, Registration,<br>& Vital Statistics | 2,234.00                 | 3,443.00              | 1,610.00                 |
| 4150-4151 Financial Administration                      | 1,900.00                 | 2,021.00              | 1,815.00                 |
| 4152 Revaluation of Property                            | 500.00                   | 275.00                | 500.00                   |
| 4153 Legal Expense                                      | 1,200.00                 | 390.00                | 500.00                   |
| 4155-4159 Personnel Administration                      | 650.00                   | 293.00                | 700.00                   |
| 4191-4193 Planning and Zoning                           | 385.00                   | 331.00                | 300.00                   |
| 4194 General Government Bldg.                           | 2,950.00                 | 3,673.00              | 2,692.00                 |
| 4195 Cemeteries   | 1,180.00                 | 1,180.00              | 1,180.00                 |
| 4196 Insurance  | 2,550.00                 | 3,866.00              | 4,150.00                 |
| 4197 Advertising & Regional Associations                | 1,145.00                 | 1,144.00              | 1,245.00                 |
| 4199 Other General Government                           | 5,000.00                 | -0-                   | 5,000.00                 |
| Public Safety:  |                          |                       |                          |
| 4210-4214 Police  | 4,300.00                 | 2,916.00              | 4,300.00                 |
| 4215-4219 Ambulance                                     | 1,300.00                 | 1,300.00              | 1,350.00                 |
| 4220-4229 Fire  | 12,450.00                | 11,722.00             | 11,450.00                |
| 4290-4298 Emergency Management                          | 500.00                   | 6.00                  | 500.00                   |
| 4299 Other Public Safety<br>(including Communications)  | 1,320.00                 | 1,320.00              | 1,452.00                 |
| Highways and Streets:                                   |                          |                       |                          |
| 4311-4312 Highways and Streets                          | 24,000.00                | 21,408.00             | 24,000.00                |
| Sanitation:   |                          |                       |                          |
| 4321-4323 Solid Waste Collection                        | 233.00                   | 223.00                | 233.00                   |
| 4324-4325 Solid Waste Disposal                          | 11,978.00                | 12,076.00             | 12,662.00                |
| Health:   |                          |                       |                          |
| 4411-4414 Pest Control                                  | 100.00                   | 4.00                  | 100.00                   |
| 4415-4419 Health Agencies and Hospitals                 | 1,301.00                 | 1,301.00              | 1,245.00                 |
| Welfare:  |                          |                       |                          |
| 4441-4442 Direct Assistance                             | 500.00                   | 100.00                | 500.00                   |
| 4444 Intergov. Welfare Payments                         | 375.00                   | 525.00                | 375.00                   |
| Culture and Recreation:                                 |                          |                       |                          |
| 4520-4529 Parks and Recreation                          | 3,618.00                 | 3,168.00              | 3,168.00                 |
| 4550-4559 Library                                       | 500.00                   | 156.00                | 300.00                   |
| Conservation:   |                          |                       |                          |
| 4611-4612 Purchase of Natural Resources                 | 200.00                   | 200.00                | 200.00                   |

|  |                 |                 |             |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|-------------|
| Debt Service:                          |                 |                 |             |
| 4711 Principal-Long Term Bonds & Notes | 37,803.00       | 37,803.00       | -0-         |
| 4712 Interest-Long Term Bonds & Notes  | 2,168.00        | 767.00          | -0-         |
| 4723 Interest on TAN                   | 250.00          | -0-             | 250.00      |
| Capital Outlay:                        |                 |                 |             |
| 4902 Machinery, Vehicles & Equipment   | <u>2,500.00</u> | <u>3,319.00</u> | <u>-0-</u>  |
| TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS                   | \$132,585.00    | \$120,957.00    | \$88,672.00 |

# STATEMENT OF APPROPRIATIONS AND TAXES ASSESSED

|                                    |                   |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Total Town Appropriations Budgeted | \$143,585.00      |
| Add: Overlay                       | 54.00             |
| Add: War Service Credits           | 1,400.00          |
| Less: Town Revenues Budgeted       | 102,337.00        |
| Less: Shared Revenue To Town       | <u>241.00</u>     |
| Net Town Appropriation             | <u>42,461.00</u>  |
| Total School Appropriation         | 394,617.00        |
| Less: Shared Revenue               | <u>1,682.00</u>   |
| Net School Appropriation           | <u>392,935.00</u> |
| Total County Appropriation         | 40,202.00         |
| Less: Shared Revenue To Town       | <u>121.00</u>     |
| Net County Appropriation           | <u>40,081.00</u>  |
| Total Property Tax Assessed        | 475,477.00        |
| Less: War Service Credits          | <u>1,400.00</u>   |
| Total Property Tax Commitment      | \$474,077.00      |

|        | 1996 Tax Rate | %            | 1995 Tax Rate | %            |
|--------|---------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|
| TOWN   | \$1.69        | 8.95         | \$ 2.34       | 15.47        |
| COUNTY | 1.59          | 8.42         | 1.43          | 9.45         |
| SCHOOL | <u>15.61</u>  | <u>82.63</u> | <u>11.36</u>  | <u>75.08</u> |
| TOTAL  | \$18.89/1000  | 100.00%      | \$15.13/1000  | 100.00%      |

## SUMMARY INVENTORY OF ASSESSED VALUATION

|   | Per Town         | Per State        |
|---|------------------|------------------|
| Land  | \$11,876,246.00  | \$11,859,217.00  |
| Buildings                                     | 12,842,180.00    | 12,872,730.00    |
| Electric Utilities                            | 508,551.00       | 513,824.00       |
| Less Blind Exemption                          | 30,000.00        | 30,000.00        |
| Less Elderly Exemption                        | <u>50,000.00</u> | <u>45,000.00</u> |
| Net Valuation Upon Which Tax Rate Is Computed |                  |                  |
| Using State Figures                           | 25,146,977.00    | 25,170,771.00    |
| Decrease in Net Valuation over 1995           | \$ 389,777.00    | \$ 543,620.00    |

# BALANCE SHEET

December 31, 1996

Accrual Basis

## ASSETS

|                                    |               |              |
|------------------------------------|---------------|--------------|
| Cash Checking Account              | \$182,673.77  |              |
| Cash - Yield Tax                   | 5,205.49      |              |
| Uncollected Property Taxes         | 49,509.00     |              |
| Tax Liens Receivables              | 14,141.34     |              |
| Less Reserve for Uncollected Taxes | 1,000.00      |              |
| Accrued Interest Receivable        | 1,707.00      |              |
| Accounts Receivable - Land Use Tax | 2,500.00      |              |
| Accounts Receivable Other          | <u>220.38</u> |              |
| Total Assets                       |               | \$254,956.98 |

## LIABILITIES

|   |                 |                     |
|---|-----------------|---------------------|
| School Taxes Payable                        | \$196,973.00    |                     |
| Yield Tax Bond Deposits                     | 5,205.49        |                     |
| Accounts Payable                            | 11,648.24       |                     |
| Overpayments of Property Taxes              | <u>1,546.00</u> |                     |
| Total Liabilities                           |                 | \$215,372.73        |
| Excess of Assets over Liabilities (Surplus) |                 | <u>\$ 39,584.25</u> |

## ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

### Detail

|       |                             |                    |
|-------|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| 4140  | Barbara Collier             | \$ 61.50           |
| 4153  | Samaha & Vaughan            | 50.00              |
| 4191  | Provan & Lorber             | 220.38             |
| 4194  | NYNEX                       | 27.58              |
| 4194  | Martin Stefanik             | 16.00              |
| 4194  | PSNH                        | 31.98              |
| 4312  | Bob Peckett                 | 3,245.00           |
| 4324  | Town of Franconia           | 6,211.70           |
| 4415  | Hospice                     | 200.00             |
| 4442  | Millwood Forestry - P. Hopp | 100.00             |
| 4520  | Town of Franconia           | <u>1,484.10</u>    |
| Total |                             | <u>\$11,648.24</u> |



## SCHEDULE OF TOWN PROPERTY

|                                   |                   |                     |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| Town Hall                         |                   |                     |
| Land                              | \$ 29,450.00      |                     |
| Building                          | <u>118,550.00</u> |                     |
|                                   |                   | \$148,000.00        |
| Fire Station Building, at cost    |                   | 63,261.00           |
| Furniture and Equipment           | 5,619.00          |                     |
| Library - Furniture and Equipment | 2,200.00          |                     |
| Police Department - Equipment     | 1,200.00          |                     |
| Fire Department - Equipment       | 26,000.00         |                     |
| Trucks                            | <u>17,500.00</u>  |                     |
|                                   |                   | <u>\$ 52,519.00</u> |
| Total Town Property               |                   | \$263,780.00        |

## GENERAL LONG-TERM DEBT

December 31, 1996

Accrual Basis

|                                    | Principal     | Interest        |
|------------------------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Beginning Amount - January 1, 1996 | \$37,802.86   | \$ -0-          |
| Payments in 1996                   | 37,802.86     | 785.07          |
| Refund                             | <u>-0-</u>    | <u>(18.25)</u>  |
| Ending Amount - December 31, 1996  | <u>\$ -0-</u> | <u>\$766.82</u> |

## AUDITOR'S REPORT

I have examined the reports and accounts from the Board of Selectmen, Tax Collector, Town Clerk, Treasurer, Trustees of the Trust Funds, Cemetery Trustees, Library Trustees, Conservation Commission and the Fire Department of the Town of Easton for the year ended December 31, 1996. My examination was made in accordance with the State of New Hampshire guidelines and generally accepted auditing standards as I deemed necessary in the circumstances.

In my opinion, these reports and accounts present fairly the financial position and results of operations of the Town of Easton for the year ended December 31, 1996.

Ralph Brigida, Auditor  
February 23, 1997

**TREASURER'S REPORT**  
**for the Year Ending December 31, 1996**  
**Cash Summary**

|                                |                  |                     |
|--------------------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| Bank Balance - January 1, 1996 |                  | \$ 162,718.46       |
| Receipts:                      |                  |                     |
| Tax Collector                  | 480,492.34       |                     |
| Town Clerk                     | 28,025.82        |                     |
| From Federal Government        | 10,417.00        |                     |
| From State of New Hampshire    | 13,047.77        |                     |
| From Peoples Bank--Interest    | 1,316.43         |                     |
| From Other Sources             | <u>4,311.73</u>  |                     |
| Total Receipts                 |                  | 537,611.09          |
| Disbursements:                 |                  |                     |
| To Grafton County              | 40,202.00        |                     |
| To School Districts            | 343,046.00       |                     |
| To Pay Off LT-Debt             | 37,802.86        |                     |
| Orders of Selectmen            | <u>96,404.92</u> |                     |
| Total Disbursements            |                  | 517,655.78          |
| Bank Balance December 31, 1996 |                  | <u>\$182,673.77</u> |

**YIELD TAX BOND ACCOUNT**  
**for the Year Ending December 31, 1996**

|                                   |              |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| Balance On Hand January 1, 1996   | \$1,435.95   |
| Deposits                          | 3,706.25     |
| Interest                          | <u>63.29</u> |
| Balance On Hand December 31, 1996 | \$5,205.49   |

# TREASURER'S REPORT

Year Ending December 31, 1996

## Cash Receipts Detail

|   |                 |                 |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1080 Tax Collector - Property Tax                     | \$471,063.91    |                 |
| 2022 Tax Collector - Overpayments                     | 3,168.00        |                 |
| 3185 Tax Collector - Yield Tax                        | 2,370.03        |                 |
| 3190 Tax Collector - Interest & Costs                 | <u>3,890.40</u> | \$480,492.34    |
| 3210 Town Clerk - Filing Fees                         | 18.32           |                 |
| 3220 Town Clerk - MV Permits & Titles                 | 27,050.00       |                 |
| Town Clerk - MV Agent Fees                            | 484.00          |                 |
| 3290 Town Clerk - Dog Licenses                        | 242.50          |                 |
| Town Clerk - Transfer Station Permits                 | 98.00           |                 |
| Town Clerk - Marriage Licenses                        | 90.00           |                 |
| Town Clerk - Misc. Fees & Penalties                   | <u>43.00</u>    | 28,025.82       |
| 3356 Federal Government - Entitlement                 |                 | 10,417.00       |
| 3351 State of NH - Revenue Sharing                    | 7,680.24        |                 |
| 3353 State of NH - Highway Block Grant                | <u>5,367.53</u> | 13,047.77       |
| 3502 Peoples Bank - Interest on Checking Account      |                 | 1,316.43        |
| 3230 Selectmen - Building Permits                     | 160.00          |                 |
| 3503 Selectmen - Town Hall Rental                     | 25.00           |                 |
| 3506 Selectmen - Refund From Comp. Funds of NH        | 541.33          |                 |
| 3506 Selectmen - NHMA Dividend                        | 1,445.08        |                 |
| 3508 Selectmen - Fire Truck Donation                  | 100.00          |                 |
| 3509 Selectmen - Checklists                           | 40.70           |                 |
| Selectmen - Current Use Applications                  | 34.00           |                 |
| Selectmen - Zoning Ordinances                         | 9.50            |                 |
| Selectmen - Town History                              | 15.00           |                 |
| Selectmen - Copies                                    | 5.00            |                 |
| 3401 Selectmen - Income From Dept. - Police Report    | 10.00           |                 |
| 4140 Selectmen - Reimbursement - Town Clerk           | 20.00           |                 |
| 4191 Selectmen - Reimbursement - Block Road Inspec.   | 750.00          |                 |
| Selectmen - Reimbursement                             | 76.62           |                 |
| Selectmen - Reimbursement - Courier Ad                | 17.85           |                 |
| 4220 Selectmen - Reimbursement - Fire Dept. Insurance | 835.00          |                 |
| 4290 Selectmen - Reimbursement - Forestry             | 23.90           |                 |
| 4312 Selectmen - Reimbursement - Driveway Paving      | 154.50          |                 |
| 4721 Selectmen - Refund on LT Debt Interest           | 18.25           |                 |
| 3290 Selectmen - Pistol Permits                       | <u>30.00</u>    | <u>4,311.73</u> |
| Total Receipts  |                 | \$537,611.09    |

# TREASURER'S REPORT

Year Ending December 31, 1996

## Cash Disbursements Detail

### 4130 - Executive

|                              |             |             |
|------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| BJ's Wordshop                | \$ 1,974.32 |             |
| Bank Service Charge          | 150.10      |             |
| Registry of Deeds            | 9.50        |             |
| B. Collier - Reimburse       | 213.24      |             |
| B. Rodrigue                  | 5.73        |             |
| Lafayette Lions Club         | 100.00      |             |
| Hydro Dynamics Corp.         | 20.00       |             |
| White Mt. Publishers         | 170.98      |             |
| Glen Press                   | 889.00      |             |
| Lyndonville Office Supply    | 35.20       |             |
| Cartographic Associates      | 1,095.00    |             |
| N.H. State Prison Industries | 17.50       |             |
| State of N.H.                | 2.00        |             |
| Postmaster - Franconia       | 45.00       |             |
| G. Sorg                      | 500.00      |             |
| P. McLaren                   | 400.00      |             |
| M. Brooks                    | 325.00      |             |
| E. Rodrigue                  | 75.00       | \$ 6,027.57 |

### 4140 - Election, Registration, Vital Statistics

|                               |          |          |
|-------------------------------|----------|----------|
| National Market Reports       | 73.00    |          |
| B. Collier                    | 1,585.02 |          |
| CPI Printing Service          | 48.52    |          |
| Edna Boisvert                 | 20.00    |          |
| Robert Glover                 | 19.00    |          |
| Loon Reservation Service      | 10.67    |          |
| White Mt. Publishers          | 202.50   |          |
| P. Every                      | 6.47     |          |
| Department of Agriculture     | 47.00    |          |
| Boise Cascade Office Products | 237.50   |          |
| NHCTCA                        | 20.00    |          |
| Town Hall Press               | 105.47   |          |
| Treasurer - State of N.H.     | 38.00    |          |
| E. Rodrigue                   | 42.50    |          |
| L. Hackett                    | 170.00   |          |
| P. Every                      | 140.00   |          |
| N. Feenstra                   | 167.50   |          |
| B. Collier                    | 155.00   |          |
| M. Chippendale                | 85.00    |          |
| J. Duggan                     | 60.00    |          |
| J. Laboe                      | 57.50    |          |
| E. Boisvert                   | 55.00    |          |
| J. Collier                    | 45.00    |          |
| L. Robar                      | 11.25    | 3,401.90 |

|                                     |               |          |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|----------|
| 4150 - Financial Administration     |               |          |
| NHTCA                               | 35.00         |          |
| Return Item Charge                  | 35.00         |          |
| K. Donovan - Reimburse              | 32.00         |          |
| Grafton Co. Registry of Deeds       | 10.00         |          |
| B. Collier - Reimburse              | 373.10        |          |
| Peoples Bank                        | 9.86          |          |
| K. Donovan                          | 500.00        |          |
| B. Collier                          | 500.00        |          |
| R. Brigida                          | 400.00        |          |
| Treasurer - State of N.H.           | <u>126.25</u> | 2,021.21 |
| 4152 - Revaluation Of Property      |               |          |
| Cartographic Associates             |               | 387.50   |
| 4153 - Legal Expense                |               |          |
| K. Bruno                            | 277.69        |          |
| Samaha & Vaughan                    | <u>106.25</u> | 383.94   |
| 4155 - Payroll Taxes                |               |          |
| Peoples Bank                        |               | 292.62   |
| 4191 - Planning & Zoning            |               |          |
| White Mountain Publishers           | 214.56        |          |
| Office of Registry of Deeds         | 70.50         |          |
| R. Every                            | 125.20        |          |
| Provan & Lorber, Inc.               | 717.42        |          |
| The Ink Spot                        | 57.75         |          |
| NHMA                                | <u>60.00</u>  | 1,245.43 |
| 4194 - General Government Buildings |               |          |
| Harris Energy                       | 760.57        |          |
| NYNEX                               | 332.49        |          |
| PSNH                                | 393.63        |          |
| Franconia Hardware                  | 36.37         |          |
| Vin Place & Sons                    | 245.00        |          |
| R.W. Anthony                        | 50.00         |          |
| Jed Birch & Sons                    | 72.00         |          |
| J.C. Plumbing & Heating             | 568.64        |          |
| Bob Peckett & Sons                  | 220.00        |          |
| M. Stefanik                         | 32.00         |          |
| Amerigas                            | 211.28        |          |
| J. Cavanaugh & Sons                 | 810.00        |          |
| Gagnon P. & H.                      | 62.00         |          |
| R. Brigida - Landscaping supplies   | 82.89         |          |
| A. Brigida - Landscaping supplies   | <u>60.75</u>  | 3,937.62 |
| 4195 - Cemetery Trustees            |               |          |
| R. Every                            |               | 1,180.00 |



|  |               |           |
|--|---------------|-----------|
| 4196 - Insurance                         |               |           |
| NHMA                                     |               | 3,865.84  |
| 4197 - Advertising/Regional Associations |               |           |
| NHMA                                     | 500.00        |           |
| North Country Council, Inc.              | 324.13        |           |
| NH Assoc. of Assessing Officials         | 20.00         |           |
| Chamber of Commerce                      | <u>300.00</u> | 1,144.13  |
| 4902 - Contingency Fund                  |               |           |
| R. Tipping                               |               | 1,000.00  |
| 4210 - Police Department                 |               |           |
| R. Every                                 |               | 2,916.43  |
| 4215 - Ambulance Service                 |               |           |
| Ross Ambulance                           | 1,000.00      |           |
| Franconia Fast Squad                     | <u>300.00</u> | 1,300.00  |
| 4220 - Fire Department                   |               |           |
| Easton Fire Department                   | 12,056.93     |           |
| J. Duggan                                | <u>500.00</u> | 12,556.93 |
| 4290 - Forest Fire Fighting & Training   |               |           |
| Town of Franconia                        |               | 29.75     |
| 4299 - Communications                    |               |           |
| Grafton Co. Sheriff's Dept.              |               | 1,320.00  |
| 4312 - Highways                          |               |           |
| Bob Peckett & Sons                       | 16,958.02     |           |
| C. Wright                                | 435.00        |           |
| A. Whitcomb                              | 123.05        |           |
| Cargill Salt                             | <u>646.43</u> | 18,162.50 |
| 4414 - Department of Agriculture         |               | 4.00      |
| 4323 - Hazardous Waste Collection        |               |           |
| No. Country Council                      |               | 223.00    |
| 4324 - Solid Waste Disposal              |               |           |
| Town of Franconia                        |               | 5,864.00  |
| 4415 - Health                            |               |           |
| White Mountain Mental Health             | 207.00        |           |
| Littleton Hospital                       | 250.00        |           |
| Grafton County Senior Citizens           | 100.00        |           |
| No. Country Home Health                  | <u>544.00</u> | 1,101.00  |

|   |                   |                 |
|---|-------------------|-----------------|
| 4449 - Tri-County Community Action                |                   |                 |
| Community Action Outreach                         | 150.00            |                 |
| Tri-County Cap                                    | <u>375.00</u>     | 525.00          |
| 4520 - Recreation Program                         |                   | 1,684.00        |
| 4550 - Library                                    |                   |                 |
| Dartmouth Book Store                              | 157.79            |                 |
| H. Taylor   | <u>156.20</u>     | 313.99          |
| 4612 - Conservation Committee                     |                   | 200.00          |
| 4711 - Principal - Long Term Debt                 |                   | 37,800.00       |
| 4721 - Interest - Long Term Debt                  |                   | 787.93          |
| 4931 - Grafton County                             |                   | 40,202.00       |
| 2075.1 - Schools                                  |                   |                 |
| Profile School District                           | 173,216.00        |                 |
| Lafayette Reg. School District                    | <u>170,030.00</u> | 343,246.00      |
| 1110.1 - Tax Collector - 1996 Lien                |                   | 14,442.69       |
| 4902 - Grolen Communications - Article 8          |                   | 2,319.00        |
| 4312 - Pike Industries - Article 7                |                   | 6,154.80        |
| 2022.2 - Refunds & Overpayments of Property Taxes |                   |                 |
| Transamerica Tax Service                          | 717.00            |                 |
| Ruskin Family                                     | 503.00            |                 |
| E. Buxton   | <u>395.00</u>     | <u>1,615.00</u> |
| Total Disbursements                               |                   | \$517,655.78    |

**LAFAYETTE REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**Apportionment 1996-97**

Operating Expenses apportioned 100% on 1994-95 ADM-R and Capital Expenses apportioned 100% on Equalized Valuation.

| Pre-existing Districts | Amounts           |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| Easton                 | \$ 173,583.00     |
| Franconia              | 788,560.00        |
| Sugar Hill             | <u>348,823.00</u> |
| Total Tax Assessment   | \$ 1,310,966.00   |

**PROFILE REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**Apportionment 1996-97**

Operating Expenses apportioned 80% on 1994-95 ADM-R and 20% on the 1994 Equalized Valuation. Lafayette share apportioned on 100% 1994-95 ADM-R.

| Pre-existing Districts | Amounts           |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| Bethlehem              | \$ 1,406,148.00   |
| Easton                 | 221,034.00        |
| Franconia              | 467,666.00        |
| Sugar Hill             | <u>346,685.00</u> |
| Total Tax Assessment   | \$ 2,441,533.00   |

# TAX COLLECTOR - SUMMARY OF WARRANTS

Levies of 1996 & Prior

## DEBITS

| Item:  | Levies of:    |                 |
|--|---------------|-----------------|
|  | 1996          | 1995 &<br>Prior |
| Uncollected Taxes - Beginning of Fiscal Year:  |               |                 |
| Property Taxes                                 | N/A           | \$40,881.46     |
| Yield Taxes                                    | N/A           | N/A             |
| Taxes Committed to Collector:                  |               |                 |
| Property Taxes                                 | 473,714.00    | N/A             |
| Yield Taxes                                    | 2,370.03      | N/A             |
| Overpayments:                                  |               |                 |
| Property Taxes                                 | 3,168.00      | N/A             |
| Adjustment                                     | .51           | -0-             |
| Interest & Costs Collected on Delinquent Taxes | <u>275.40</u> | <u>2,683.05</u> |
| TOTAL DEBITS                                   | \$479,527.94  | \$43,564.51     |

## CREDITS

|   |                  |             |
|---|------------------|-------------|
| Remitted to Treasurer During Fiscal Year: |                  |             |
| Property Taxes                            | \$424,118.51     | \$40,881.46 |
| Yield Taxes                               | 2,370.03         | -0-         |
| Interest                                  | 275.40           | 2,683.05    |
| Overpayments                              | 3,168.00         | -0-         |
| Abatements Allowed:                       |                  |             |
| Property Taxes                            | 87.00            | -0-         |
| Uncollected Taxes End of Year:            |                  |             |
| Property Taxes                            | <u>49,509.00</u> | <u>-0-</u>  |
| TOTAL CREDITS                             | \$479,527.94     | \$43,564.51 |

## SUMMARY OF TAX LIEN ACCOUNTS

### DEBITS

|   |              |               |
|---|--------------|---------------|
| Tax Liens Executed to Town                              | <u>1995</u>  | <u>1994</u>   |
| Unredeemed Taxes Balance at<br>Beginning of Fiscal Year | \$ -0-       | \$ -0-        |
| Liens Executed During Fiscal Year                       | 14,442.69    | 5,762.59      |
| Interest & Costs Collected After<br>Lien Execution      | <u>60.35</u> | <u>871.60</u> |
| Total Debits  | 14,503.04    | 6,634.19      |

### CREDITS

|   |                  |                 |
|---|------------------|-----------------|
| Remittance to Treasurer<br>Redemptions  | 1,934.21         | 4,129.73        |
| Interest & Costs (After Lien Execution) | 60.35            | 871.60          |
| Unredeemed Liens Balance End of Year    | <u>12,508.48</u> | <u>1,632.86</u> |
| Total Credits                           | \$14,503.04      | \$6,634.19      |



# 1996 PROPERTY TAXES DUE

At December 31, 1996

|                        |           |
|------------------------|-----------|
| Bailey .....           | \$ 441.00 |
| Bjorner .....          | 500.00    |
| Brooks .....           | 3,703.00  |
| Casey .....            | 139.00    |
| Cavanaugh .....        | 1,632.00  |
| Cooley Estate .....    | 4,852.00  |
| Dempsey .....          | 399.00    |
| Dexter .....           | 2,298.00  |
| Moquia .....           | 336.00    |
| German .....           | 1,377.00  |
| Furneaux .....         | 1,405.00  |
| Gibson .....           | 1,342.00  |
| Glover .....           | 1,007.00  |
| Hight .....            | 847.00    |
| Hitzler .....          | 372.00    |
| Hopp .....             | 714.00    |
| Hunt .....             | 183.00    |
| Hussey .....           | 259.00    |
| Kelleher/Farrell ..... | 736.00    |
| Kempton .....          | 1,120.00  |
| Kenney, M. ....        | 1,252.00  |
| Kenney, M. ....        | 547.00    |
| Kenney, M. ....        | 47.00     |
| Kenney, M. ....        | 545.00    |
| Kenney, J. ....        | 4,007.00  |
| King, Ruth & Jen ..... | 723.00    |
| Callender .....        | 475.00    |
| Chartier .....         | 1,738.00  |
| Landis .....           | 632.00    |
| Locke, I. ....         | 423.00    |
| Locke, P. ....         | 1,294.00  |
| Matta .....            | 398.00    |
| McKenzie .....         | 378.00    |
| McKeown .....          | 336.00    |
| McKeown .....          | 110.00    |
| McKeown .....          | 158.00    |
| Montesi .....          | 901.00    |
| Moody .....            | 1,784.00  |
| Peckett, G. ....       | 556.00    |
| Petrarca .....         | 759.00    |
| Portinari .....        | 782.00    |
| Portinari .....        | 327.00    |
| Pottberg .....         | 652.00    |
| Ruskin .....           | 52.00     |

|                   |                 |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| Shepard .....     | 1,795.00        |
| Sherburn, S. .... | 303.00          |
| Sherburn, S. .... | 164.00          |
| Sorg .....        | 254.00          |
| Sturtevant .....  | 2,604.00        |
| Summerlin .....   | 371.00          |
| Trueman .....     | <u>1,480.00</u> |
| Total .....       | \$49,509.00     |

### **1995 TAX LIENS DUE**

**At December 31, 1996**

|                        |               |
|------------------------|---------------|
| Brooks, Mark           | \$ 3,278.10   |
| Cooley Estate          | 4,284.67      |
| Shepard, David & Alice | 2,074.85      |
| Sturtevant, B.F., Inc. | 2,311.66      |
| Trueman, Laura         | <u>559.20</u> |
|                        | \$12,508.48   |

### **1994 TAX LIENS DUE**

**At December 31, 1996**

|              |            |
|--------------|------------|
| Brooks, Mark | \$1,632.86 |
|--------------|------------|

# TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

|  |                 |                   |
|--|-----------------|-------------------|
| Motor Vehicle Registrations            | \$26,966.00     |                   |
| Titles                                 | 84.00           |                   |
| Dogs                                   | 242.50          |                   |
| Penalties                              | 8.00            |                   |
| Filings                                | 3.00            |                   |
| Municipal Agent                        | 484.00          |                   |
| Transfer Station Stickers              | 98.00           |                   |
| Bank Charges                           | 35.00           |                   |
| UCC                                    | 15.32           |                   |
| Marriage Licenses                      | <u>90.00</u>    |                   |
| Total Transferred to Town              |                 | \$28,025.82       |
| Less Statutory Fees Paid to Clerk      |                 |                   |
| Motor Vehicles                         | (469.50)        |                   |
| Titles                                 | (84.00)         |                   |
| Dogs                                   | (42.00)         |                   |
| Municipal Agent                        | (484.00)        |                   |
| Marriage Licenses                      | (14.00)         |                   |
| UCC                                    | <u>(15.32)</u>  |                   |
|  |                 | <u>(1,108.82)</u> |
| Net Income for Town                    |                 | \$26,917.00       |
| Town Clerk's Pay                       | \$ 500.00       |                   |
| Town Clerk's fees, as above            | <u>1,108.82</u> |                   |
|  | 1,608.82        |                   |
| Expense for Clerk's Office - Utilities | <u>(349.90)</u> |                   |
| Total Pay                              | \$ 1,258.92     |                   |

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara J. Collier  
Town Clerk

## Office Hours

Monday Morning  
10AM - 12 Noon

Thursday Afternoon  
4PM - 6PM

**MARRIAGES REGISTERED  
IN THE TOWN OF EASTON, NH  
for the Year Ending December 31, 1996**

| DATE & PLACE<br>OF MARRIAGE   | NAME AND SURNAME<br>OF GROOM & BRIDE      | RESIDENCE AT<br>TIME OF MARRIAGE |
|-------------------------------|---|----------------------------------|
| Nov. 2, 1996<br>Berlin, NH    | Jason D. Morton<br>Karen A. Winne         | Lisbon, NH<br>Easton, NH         |
| Dec. 5, 1996<br>Franconia, NH | Richard G. Robinson<br>Gail B. Livingston | Easton, NH<br>Little Compton, RI |

**DEATHS REGISTERED  
IN THE TOWN OF EASTON, NH  
for the Year Ending December 31, 1996**

| DATE & PLACE<br>OF DEATH      | NAME & SURNAME<br>OF DECEASED | NAME & SURNAME<br>OF FATHER | NAME & SURNAME<br>OF MOTHER |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Aug. 4, 1996<br>Lebanon, NH   | Jane H. Colarusso             | Fred Hobbs                  | Ethel Nixon                 |
| Nov. 4, 1996<br>Littleton, NH | Aime Rodrigue                 | Joseph Rodrigue             | Marie Gagnon                |

## REPORT OF THE EASTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

I am pleased to report that 1996 was a very quiet year in response to 911 calls. There were 8 calls compared to 16 in the previous year. The types of response calls included the following: a Mutual Aid structure fire, motor vehicle roll-over, gas leak, car accident, false alarms and even a dog rescue.

Regardless of the number of incidents, the Fire Fighters must continue to engage in training (both class room and hands on). In 1996, some of the training involved the following: Review of 911 procedures, pumping exercises, down power lines, hazardous material, chimney fires, a simulated structure fire at a local inn, review of sop's (standard operating procedures), as well as joint training with Franconia, Sugar Hill and North Woodstock Fire Departments. In addition to the above, Fire Fighters also attended the annual 2 day formal training programs conducted by the Twin State Mutual Fire Aid Association.

During National Fire Prevention Awareness Week, a children's program was conducted at the Franconia Children's Center.

EFD responded to a request to wet down the new soccer field at Profile High School during the heat wave last Summer.

The 6th Annual Fund Raiser was held in June. The chicken BBQ dinner, raffle, yard sale and private donations netted \$2,000. Monies realized from these events are used to buy various items for the Fire Dept. In 1997, a warrant article will be presented at Town Meeting to see if the Town will accept a gift of \$1,000.00 from the Easton Fire Fighters Association to set up a Capital Equipment Reserve Fund for future needs of the Department. It is hoped that this fund will grow over the years via donations, etc., to help reduce the impact on the Tax Payers as Capital Equipment is needed.

This past year a unique opportunity happened. The Tippings Family who live in New York and have a vacation home in Benton, presented the Town with a proposal to participate in the bidding for a used fire engine becoming available in New York. The Board of Selectmen held an open meeting and based on the input from those in attendance decided to go forward with the proposal. The Town put up \$900.00 plus a \$100.00 donation from a private citizen. The Tipping Family put up \$4,000.00 to secure the bid.

This engine will replace an older fire engine which is rusting out, subject to the voters approval for funds to purchase and install a new water tank in the newly acquired engine.

Our thanks to the Kinsman Valley Club, Easton residents and non-residents for their continued support and generosity throughout the years.

A special thanks to the Officers and Fire Fighters who volunteered over 2,000 hours of their time in 1996.

As of 12/31/96, I have retired from the Fire Service and therefore resigned as Easton's Fire Chief. I have found the job challenging yet very rewarding. The dedication and support I have received from the Fire Fighters is just outstanding. I leave the job feeling quite confident that the Fire Department is running smoothly and can respond to any emergency situation in a superior manner.



Your new Chief is Charles (Butch) Casey. He was Assistant Chief. Butch has been invaluable to me with his years of experience and ability to get the job done. Mike Valcourt has been elected as the new Assistant Chief.

It has been a privilege to serve as your Chief.

Respectfully,

Joseph R. Duggan

**EASTON FIRE DEPARTMENT**  
**Results of Operation**  
**Year Ending December 31, 1996**

|                                    | <u>1996</u><br><u>Budget</u> | <u>1996</u><br><u>Actual</u> | <u>Over</u><br><u>(Under)</u> |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Checking Account January 1, 1996   | \$ 141.56                    | \$ 141.56                    | \$ -0-                        |
| Income:                            |                              |                              |                               |
| From Town of Easton                | 11,950.00                    | 11,950.00                    | -0-                           |
| Interest From Bank                 | -0-                          | 78.39                        | 78.39                         |
| Other Sources                      | <u>-0-</u>                   | <u>191.93</u>                | <u>191.93</u>                 |
| Total Income                       | 11,950.00                    | 12,220.32                    | 270.32                        |
| Expenses:                          |                              |                              |                               |
| Training                           | 1,200.00                     | 237.00                       | (963.00)                      |
| Building/Utilities                 | 2,000.00                     | 2,233.18                     | 233.18                        |
| Equipment                          | 3,400.00                     | 3,115.83                     | (284.17)                      |
| Maintenance/Supplies               | 2,600.00                     | 3,104.10                     | 504.10                        |
| Administration                     | 700.00                       | 565.71                       | (134.29)                      |
| Meeting/Travel                     | 350.00                       | 284.91                       | (65.09)                       |
| Twin State/Dues                    | 200.00                       | 200.00                       | -0-                           |
| Fuel/Gas                           | 500.00                       | 451.72                       | (48.28)                       |
| Insurance                          | <u>1,000.00</u>              | <u>835.00</u>                | <u>(165.00)</u>               |
| 1996 Budget Total                  | <u>\$11,950.00</u>           | <u>\$11,027.45</u>           | <u>(\$ 922.55)</u>            |
| Checking Account December 31, 1996 | \$ 141.56                    | \$ 1,334.43                  | (\$1,192.87)                  |

## REPORT OF TOWN FOREST FIRE WARDEN AND STATE FOREST RANGER

To aid your Forest Fire Warden, Fire Department and State Forest Ranger, contact your local Warden or Fire Department to find out if a permit is required before doing any open burning. Violations of RSA 227-L:17, the fire permit law and the other burning laws of the State of New Hampshire are misdemeanors punishable by fines of up to \$2,000 and/or a year in jail. Violators are also liable for all fire suppression costs.

There are ten Forest Rangers who work for the N.H. Division of Forests and Lands, Forest Protection Bureau. State Forest Rangers are available to assist communities with forest fire suppression, prevention and training programs as well as the enforcement of forest fire and timber harvest laws. If you have any questions regarding forest fire or timber harvest laws please call our office at 271-2217.

The State of New Hampshire operates 15 fire towers, 2 mobile patrols and 3 contract aircraft patrols. This early detection and reports from citizens aid in the quick response from local fire departments.

### 1996 FIRE STATISTICS (Cost Shared)

#### FIRES REPORTED BY COUNTY

|              |    |
|--------------|----|
| Belknap      | 6  |
| Carroll      | 7  |
| Cheshire     | 13 |
| Coos         | 10 |
| Grafton      | 12 |
| Hillsborough | 19 |
| Merrimack    | 14 |
| Rockingham   | 15 |
| Strafford    | 5  |
| Sullivan     | 6  |

TOTAL FIRES                      107

#### CAUSES OF FIRES REPORTED

|                |    |
|----------------|----|
| Smoking        | 5  |
| Debris Burning | 34 |
| Campfire       | 16 |
| Power Line     | 4  |
| Railroad       | 2  |
| Equipment Use  | 1  |
| Lightning      | 2  |
| Children       | 22 |
| OHRV           | 1  |
| Miscellaneous  | 20 |

**“REMEMBER, ONLY YOU CAN PREVENT FOREST FIRES!”**

Stephen M. Kessler  
Forest Ranger

Joseph Duggan  
Forest Fire Warden

## CEMETERY TRUSTEES' REPORT

Three burials took place during 1996, Ernest Doolan on May 9th, Jane Colarusso on August 8th, and Beulah Bowles on September 11th. Two cemetery lots were sold, a double site to Robert Colarusso on October 1st.

Memorial Day services were once more very successful and appreciation is extended to the Howard Shawney Post, Veterans of Foreign Wars, for their participation.

The resignation of Carol Hutton as a Trustee was accepted by the Selectmen on September 9th and the interim appointment of Bunny Ford to serve until the Town Meeting was made on December 2nd.

In addition to performance of normal maintenance functions, the Trustees hope in 1997 to begin the process of clearing and seeding the extra land on the cemetery's easterly end acquired as a result of the 1994 boundary line agreement with the Trustees of the Paine Estate.

### Financial Statement

|  |            |
|--|------------|
| <b>Balance on hand, January 1, 1996:</b> | \$1,163.77 |
|--|------------|

#### Receipts:

|                                |               |                 |
|--------------------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| 1996 appropriation:            | 1,180.00      |                 |
| Plot sales and interment fees: | 350.00        |                 |
| Perpetual care:                | <u>200.00</u> |                 |
|                                |               | <u>1,730.00</u> |

#### Disbursements

|  |               |                 |
|--|---------------|-----------------|
| Cemetery Association dues:             | 10.00         |                 |
| Lawn care:                             | 1,080.00      |                 |
| Memorial Day observances:              | 84.06         |                 |
| Purchase of row tags:                  | 31.20         |                 |
| Transfer to perpetual care trust fund: | <u>200.00</u> |                 |
|  |               | <u>1,405.26</u> |

|  |             |
|--|-------------|
| <b>Balance on hand, January 1, 1997:</b> | \$ 1,488.51 |
|--|-------------|

Easton Cemetery Trustees

Gregory M. Sorg  
Robert E. Every

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEE OF TRUST FUNDS**  
**Year Ending December 31, 1996**  
**Cemetery Reserve Funds**

| Date<br>of<br>Creation | NAME OF TRUST FUND        | PRINCIPAL                       |                           | INCOME                          |                          | Balance<br>End<br>of Year |
|------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|
|                        |                           | Balance<br>Beginning<br>of Year | Balance<br>End<br>of Year | Balance<br>Beginning<br>of Year | Income<br>During<br>Year |                           |
| 1916                   | R.W. Young                | \$ 100.00                       | \$ 100.00                 | \$ 15.06                        | \$ 5.94                  | \$ 21.00                  |
| 1922                   | P. Kinsman & B. Edwards   | 100.00                          | 100.00                    | 15.06                           | 5.94                     | 21.00                     |
| 1937                   | Orin B. Bowles            | 200.00                          | 200.00                    | 30.17                           | 11.89                    | 42.06                     |
| 1947                   | Arthur Pease              | 114.00                          | 114.00                    | 17.05                           | 6.75                     | 23.80                     |
| 1949 & 1979            | Charles A. Young          | 300.00                          | 300.00                    | 45.20                           | 17.84                    | 63.04                     |
| 1959                   | Florence Pease            | 200.00                          | 200.00                    | 30.17                           | 11.89                    | 42.06                     |
| 1966 & 1985            | Whitcomb Tabbutt          | 600.00                          | 600.00                    | 90.12                           | 35.57                    | 125.69                    |
| 1970                   | Edson & Harriet Bailey    | 100.00                          | 100.00                    | 15.06                           | 5.94                     | 21.00                     |
| 1970                   | Leighton & Doolan         | 71.25                           | 71.25                     | 10.73                           | 4.05                     | 14.78                     |
| 1971                   | M.H. & Idamae Bowles      | 100.00                          | 100.00                    | 15.06                           | 5.94                     | 21.00                     |
| 1971 & 1989            | William & Alice Muser     | 200.00                          | 200.00                    | 30.17                           | 11.89                    | 42.06                     |
| 1973                   | Russell & Iva Stevens     | 50.00                           | 50.00                     | 7.53                            | 2.97                     | 10.50                     |
| 1973                   | John W. & C.N. Leigher    | 100.00                          | 100.00                    | 15.06                           | 5.94                     | 21.00                     |
| 1973                   | L. Gerard Paine           | 750.00                          | 750.00                    | 113.06                          | 44.38                    | 157.44                    |
| 1974                   | Everett W. Bailey         | 100.00                          | 100.00                    | 15.06                           | 5.94                     | 21.00                     |
| 1975                   | Howard Bonor              | 100.00                          | 100.00                    | 15.06                           | 5.94                     | 21.00                     |
| 1979                   | William & Lillian Bailey  | 200.00                          | 200.00                    | 30.17                           | 11.89                    | 42.06                     |
| 1979                   | Merton Edney              | 100.00                          | 100.00                    | 15.06                           | 5.94                     | 21.00                     |
| 1979                   | Clayton & Sadie Glover    | 200.00                          | 200.00                    | 30.17                           | 11.89                    | 42.06                     |
| 1980                   | Margaret Wolff            | 100.00                          | 100.00                    | 15.06                           | 5.94                     | 21.00                     |
| 1984                   | Heinz & Helene Schultze   | 300.00                          | 300.00                    | 45.20                           | 17.84                    | 63.04                     |
| 1985                   | William A. & Carol Bailey | 200.00                          | 200.00                    | 30.17                           | 11.89                    | 42.06                     |
| 1985                   | Stuart or Uncha Bowles    | 50.00                           | 50.00                     | 7.53                            | 2.97                     | 10.50                     |
| 1988                   | Stewart & David Bowles    | 200.00                          | 200.00                    | 30.17                           | 11.89                    | 42.06                     |
| 1988                   | Beulah Bowles             | 100.00                          | 100.00                    | 15.06                           | 5.94                     | 21.00                     |
| 1990                   | John S. Noga              | 100.00                          | 100.00                    | 15.06                           | 5.94                     | 21.00                     |
| 1990                   | Edward A. Hutton          | 100.00                          | 100.00                    | 15.06                           | 5.94                     | 21.00                     |
| 1990                   | Gertrude Schulman         | 200.00                          | 200.00                    | 30.17                           | 11.89                    | 42.06                     |
| 1990                   | Asa P. Ruskin             | 100.00                          | 100.00                    | 15.06                           | 5.94                     | 21.00                     |
| 1991                   | Rosemary Johnston         | 25.00                           | 25.00                     | 1.51                            | 1.93                     | 3.44                      |
| 1992                   | Russell & Ruth Towne      | 300.00                          | 300.00                    | 17.96                           | 16.40                    | 34.36                     |
| 1993                   | Chris Jerome              | 100.00                          | 100.00                    | 5.97                            | 5.50                     | 11.47                     |
| 1993                   | Mary E. Schlegel          | 600.00                          | 600.00                    | 35.75                           | 32.83                    | 68.58                     |
| 1993                   | Walter Hold               | 100.00                          | 100.00                    | 5.97                            | 5.50                     | 11.47                     |
| 1996                   | Jane H. Colarusso (NEW)   | <u>0.00</u>                     | <u>200.00</u>             | <u>0.00</u>                     | <u>0.00</u>              | <u>0.00</u>               |
| TOTALS                 |                           | \$ 6,260.25                     | \$ 6,460.25               | \$ 840.72                       | \$ 366.87                | \$ 1,207.59               |

## LIBRARIAN'S REPORT

### 1996

The Easton Library has been attempting to increase its readership this year. The hours were changed to the first and third Monday evenings to coincide with the Selectmen's meetings. However, this had no noticable effect on the number of visitors. The Librarian was away for five months due to a family illness and the Trustees kept the Library open during this time, save for the month of August when the Library was closed. There have been only two new readers all year.

The total books checked out for the year was only 126 with a total of 63 visits from a small group of readers.

The Librarian and the Trustees are concerned about the future of the Library.

Harriet Taylor  
Librarian

### EASTON PUBLIC LIBRARY MEMORIAL FUNDS

#### Certificate of Deposit

|                         |              |
|-------------------------|--------------|
| Balance January 1, 1996 | \$ 659.36    |
| Interest Earned         | <u>37.90</u> |
| TOTAL                   | \$ 697.26    |

**CONSERVATION COMMISSION**  
**Year ending December 31, 1996**

Balance in Checking Account - January 1, 1996                      \$ 1,022.85

**RECEIPTS**

|                    |              |        |
|--------------------|--------------|--------|
| Receipts from Town | \$ 200.00    |        |
| Interest from Bank | <u>16.03</u> |        |
|                    |              | 216.03 |

**DISBURSEMENTS**

|               |          |              |
|---------------|----------|--------------|
| Bank Expenses | \$ 60.00 |              |
|               |          | <u>60.00</u> |

Balance in Checking Account - December 31, 1996                      \$ 1,178.88

**SAVINGS ACCOUNT- PEOPLES BANK**

|                                      |             |                  |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|------------------|
| Balance in Account - January 1, 1996 | \$ 264.93   |                  |
| Interest Earned -                    | <u>7.03</u> |                  |
|                                      |             | <u>\$ 271.96</u> |

**POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT**

There has been little criminal activity during the past year. Certainly, a great deal of credit should go to Easton residents who have kept a close and alert watch.

For some reason, there have been fewer motor vehicle accidents during the year.

In closing, let me again emphasize - KEEP YOUR EYES OPEN - WATCH FOR UNUSUAL ACTIVITY - EVEN DURING DAYLIGHT HOURS. There have been burglaries in surrounding towns. Easton has been spared because its residents keep their eyes open.

Thank you for the trust you have placed in me during the past year.

Easton Police Department  
Robert E. Every, Chief

## PLANNING BOARD REPORT

The generally quiet year experienced by the Town as a whole during 1996 was reflected in the activities of the Planning Board.

At its January 9th meeting, the Board approved Campbell and Pamela McLaren's subdivision of Lot 3 of Map 6 into two lots. At its August 6th meeting, the Board, noting David and Alice Shepard's completion of the subdivision's interior road to town road standards, and their fulfillment of all the other conditions of the Board's conditional approval of March 1, 1994, granted final approval to the subdivision of Lot 27 of Map 2 into two lots, and to the re-subdivision of Lot 27A into 26 lots. Also at its January 9th meeting, the Board approved new plans and specifications for the proposed road of the subdivision of Lot 32 of Map 4, owned by John Block. Work on that road had not been completed by the time Mr. Block sold that land to Carol Furneaux in November, and the conditions of the Board's March 1, 1994 approval of that subdivision, as modified at the January 9, 1996 meeting, remain unfulfilled.

In April, the Grafton County Superior Court denied the Town's cross-petition for attorney's fees and costs incurred in connection with the suit brought against it in 1994 by the Estate of Durand Cooley, bringing an effective end to the Town's involvement in the litigation growing out of the 1988 transfer of part of Lot 27 of Map 2 to David and Alice Shepard.

Virtually all of the rest of the Board's activities for 1996 was devoted to preparing, sending and reviewing responses to a questionnaire regarding possible changes to the Town's Master Plan. The Board's final report, approved January 7, 1997, is here reproduced in full:

### SUMMARY

#### Background

At its monthly meeting of February 6, 1996, the Easton Planning Board noted that, since little subdivision activity was expected to take place in the Town during 1996, the year might provide a good opportunity to review and propose revisions to its land use ordinances. It was agreed that basic to this task is a review of the Master Plan, which had not been reviewed since its original approval at the Board's July 2, 1991 meeting.

Accordingly, at the April 2, 1996 meeting, a proposed questionnaire to be sent to Easton property owners was presented to the Board for review. The questionnaire was approved in revised form under the name "Master Plan Revision Survey" at the June 4, 1996 meeting, and plans for its distribution were finalized. On June 10th, the Board met to prepare mailings for the approximately 260 different land owners of the Town, which were sent the following day. A copy of the approved Survey and covering letter are appended as Attachment A. Over the next four months, approximately 60 responses were received, a rate of about 23 percent.

Between the August 6th and September 4th meetings, the approximately 56 responses by then received (which were later found to be representative of the total number eventually received) were collated according to Survey question number, which collation, a copy of which is appended as Attachment B, was presented to the Board at the September meeting. The Board, agreeing among themselves as to the perceived general trends of the responses, then undertook the drafting of a brief narrative summarizing these trends as to each Survey question. This narrative, a copy of which is appended as Attachment C, was presented at the November 5th meeting, where it was approved as an accurate reflection of the survey responses and as the basis of this Summary, which was approved by the Board in its present form at its meeting of January 7, 1997 for filing in the Town Records of the Town of Easton.



## Survey Results

The overall tenor of the survey responses, with which the Board agrees, is that, although there has been growth in the Town since approval of the Master Plan in 1991, and although there will continue to be, that growth in general has been and should remain consistent with the expectations and projections set forth in the Plan; that the Town's present system of land use ordinances is adequate to meet present trends; and that no significant overhauling of either the Plan or the ordinances supporting it is necessary.

Easton residents still cherish most the scenic beauty and quiet of the Town, and feel that the present three acre zoning and related setbacks and road frontage requirements, and steep slopes and wetlands restrictions are adequate to maintain those qualities, if those requirements and restrictions are enforced. In this connection, several respondents suggested, perhaps only partly in jest, that the best way to ensure a de facto three acre minimum lot size would be by increasing the minimum de jure, or legal, size to five acres, thereby creating a sort of buffer to protect the Town from the tendency of the Zoning Board of Adjustment to grant variances allowing building on lots of fewer than the present de jure three acre minimum. A more serious caveat to the general endorsement of the three acre standard had to do with Easton's few remaining farms and large valley tracts, which almost all residents would like to see preserved intact, but which they also recognize could not be done through regulatory means, such as by creation of a zoning district, without seriously infringing the owners' rights to subdivide and profit from their land. In general, the residents believe, and the Board concurs, that present land use restrictions are adequate to protect Easton for the time being and for the immediate future from inadequately designed, constructed and maintained roads, from scenic and environmental despoliation and natural resource dissipation, and from creating a need for increased town-built and town-maintained infrastructure.

Surprising support was expressed for the concept of cluster housing, which was explained in some detail in the Survey questionnaire, but the support was tempered by concerns for the perceived strain on infrastructure it would bring and the perceived needs for municipal sewage, a bigger fire department and more roads. The Board views cluster housing quite the other way, as a means of minimizing fire protection problems and the need for roads and other infrastructure by concentrating housing to a small area, while preserving the present requirement that there be no more than one house for each three acres dedicated to a subdivision. A consensus appears to be lacking at present to make cluster housing a viable concept for purposes of amending the zoning ordinance to allow it.

Many respondents expressed concern with the escalation of our Town's tax rate in recent years. This phenomenon has been overwhelmingly the result of the skyrocketing increases in the component of our taxes payable to the Lafayette and Profile School Districts, which has in turn been the result of the prodigality of the school boards and voters, and the increased number of school age children living in Easton. There is little that Easton's land use ordinances can do to affect either factor, unless they were to be amended to encourage more real estate ownership for nonresidential uses or non-domiciliary purposes, such as by creating industrial commercial zones, or allowing the building of timeshare or quarter-share condominiums, uses which Easton residents do not generally want in this Town, and which create potentially expensive municipal problems of other kinds. The Board offers no recommendations for land use ordinance changes to arrest the growth of the Town's school age population, but is open to suggestions that are both practical and lawful.

The Board appreciates the efforts of those who responded to its survey.

Easton Planning Board



## FRANCONIA LIFE SQUAD 1996

This year has been demanding yet rewarding for the Life Squad members. Our runs have increased and our training has also increased. We have worked long hours on the plans for our new RESCUE/AMBULANCE type vehicle. This new vehicle should be in service the first of the year. This will not be a transport vehicle at this time. We would like to thank all of you who made private donations, and the TOWN OF FRANCONIA for their financial support toward the purchase of this vehicle.

As well as to medical emergencies, the Life Squad responds to assist each of your Fire Departments on their calls. We also train with them.

I would like to express our appreciation to Franconia, Sugar Hill, and Easton taxpayers for their continued support of our Squad.

The following is a breakdown of our activity from January through November 1996. We have had a total of 95 reportable runs thus far.

| EMERGENCY DESCRIPTION       | <u>Total</u> | <u>Fran.</u> | <u>S. Hill</u> | <u>Easton</u> | <u>Other</u> |
|-----------------------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|---------------|--------------|
| Motor Vehicle Accidents     | 27           | 20           | 5              | 1             | 1            |
| Medical Emergencies         | 23           | 12           | 10             | 1             | 0            |
| Rec. Vehicle Accidents      | 1            | 1            | 0              | 0             | 0            |
| Bicycle Accidents           | 1            | 1            | 0              | 0             | 0            |
| Misc. Health Problems       | 2            | 2            | 0              | 0             | 0            |
| Cardiac Problems            | 5            | 4            | 1              | 0             | 0            |
| Alcohol Problems            | 1            | 1            | 0              | 0             | 0            |
| Deaths                      | 1            | 0            | 0              | 0             | 1            |
| Burns/Fire Related          | 0            | 0            | 0              | 0             | 0            |
| Pediatric Emergency         | 4            | 3            | 1              | 0             | 0            |
| Mt. Rescue Med. Emergencies | 2            | 2            | 0              | 0             | 0            |
| Attempted Suicide           | 1            | 1            | 0              | 0             | 0            |
| Minor Med. Emergencies      | 13           | 8            | 4              | 1             | 0            |
| No Transport/Refused        | 7            | 5            | 2              | 0             | 0            |
| Life Line Calls             | 6            | 2            | 4              | 0             | 0            |
| Airplane Accident           | <u>1</u>     | <u>1</u>     | <u>0</u>       | <u>0</u>      | <u>0</u>     |
| <b>TOTAL RUNS</b>           | 95           | 63           | 27             | 3             | 2            |

At this time, I would like to encourage anyone living in the tri-town area who is a certified E.M.T. to consider becoming a member of our Squad. Contact any Squad member for more information.

Respectfully submitted,

Joel N. Peabody  
Chief, Franconia Life Squad

## **FRANCONIA/SUGAR HILL/EASTON RECREATION COMMITTEE**

Our summer program had a new home base this year. We were at the multi-purpose room at the Lafayette Regional School. Our Director, Wendy LeClair, brought new ideas and our staff of Brian Frenkiewicz, Jennifer Collins, Amy Cyrs, Libby Cassaboom and Sheila King each added their own special touch. The summer program ran for eight weeks and was filled with hiking, swimming, sports, arts and crafts, theater and dance. Jean Serino again taught the children swimming lessons at the Hillwinds pool.

We offered Instructional baseball, farm league, little league and softball teams. Our coaches were energetic and dedicated. In addition soccer, and basketball games were offered at the Lafayette Regional School. Over 90 children enjoyed these events.

Our winter program offers a hockey program and free skating at the rink behind the Abby Greenleaf Library. The rules and hours of operation are posted. This year the committee is pleased to add Wednesday "Family Night" skating from 4-6 pm. There will be music to skate by and hot dogs and hot chocolate available at a small charge. A great social time for skaters of all ages.

Our committee meets monthly to discuss the changing recreational needs of our area and is interested in supporting and providing recreational activities to meet the needs of our community. Parent and community ideas and support are welcome.

The recreational programs we offer involved everyone. We are very fortunate to have the support and dedication of our coaches and parents. We encourage the public to become active in our programs, support the youth and take advantage of the programs we offer.

Respectfully submitted,

The Recreation Committee

### **RECREATION COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

#### **FRANCONIA**

Steve Plant (resigned)

Carrie Hamblin

Kim Cowles

M. Kate Foley-Marvelli

#### **EASTON**

Kelley King

#### **SUGAR HILL**

Sally Field

Laurie Henault

**WHITE MOUNTAIN MENTAL HEALTH  
AND DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES  
DIRECTOR'S REPORT 1996**

*All Persons Have the Right to Meaningfully Participate in the Life of Their Community*

This is the mission statement of White Mountain Mental Health and Developmental Services. For more than a quarter of a century, our staff has worked to assure that individuals with mental illness or a developmental disability receive the supports to allow this mission to be a reality.

Many Easton residents have been able to remain living and working productively in their community due to the assistance of WMMH&DS. Psychiatric hospitalizations, residential treatment of children, and institutionalization of persons with a developmental disability are now exceedingly rare due to the availability of community based supports. Easton residents also have access to high quality, professional counseling for family problems, depression and substance abuse through White Mountain Mental Health. Not only do the recipients of services benefit from this intervention, but also the community. The cost of unaddressed emotional problems are felt in many different forms, including the quality of family life, the productivity of our work force and the safety of our streets.

During 1996 White Mountain Mental Health and Developmental Services provided the following to Easton residents:

- 26 hours of outpatient counseling services to Easton residents who were either uninsured or partially insured. The full cost of these services was \$1,690.
- Extensive supports, including housing, vocational services and family support to persons with serious developmental disabilities. These supports helped make it possible for these individuals to live and work in their community.
- Developmental assessments, case management, in-home support, speech therapy, physical therapy, and occupational therapy to families with infants or toddlers diagnosed with some form of developmental delay. These services are provided regardless of ability to pay.
- Perhaps most importantly, emergency services are available 24 hours per day, seven days per week to assist individuals, families, hospitals and law enforcement in managing psychiatric emergencies.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the people of Easton for their support over the past twenty five years. We continue to look to you, our community partners, to help us to continue to provide excellent services in this era of abundant problems and scarce resources.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane C. MacKay, CCSW  
Area Director

# HOSPICE OF THE LITTLETON AREA

## 1996 Annual Report

Hospice of the Littleton Area has completed its seventh year of providing volunteer services to residents of area communities. Our service area included the towns of Littleton, Bethlehem, Twin Mountain, Franconia, Sugar Hill, Easton, Lisbon, Lyman, Landaff, Monroe, Bath and Woodsville/Haverhill.

Our Director and volunteers provided supportive care at home, in hospitals, and in nursing homes to 45 individuals and families coping with the advanced and final stages of illness.

Our organization was very pleased this year to again offer support to two (2) new area programs. We continued to provide volunteer services to the North Country Home Health Agency's Medicare Hospice Program and we again offered supportive care to patients and families in the Hospice Room of Littleton Regional Hospital.

Our Hospice Program also conducted three support groups which were free of charge and open to the public. The Cancer Support Group, Breast Cancer Support Group and Bereavement Support Group offered a supportive and caring place to share feelings and experiences guided by a trained counselor. Thirty (30) individuals attended these support groups in 1996.

Volunteers gave over 1500 hours in the provision of services.

Our Hospice conducts a yearly nine (9) week long, eighteen (18) hour Hospice Volunteer Training Program for individuals interested in becoming volunteers or in increasing their knowledge about Hospice care. We now have over 100 trained volunteers available to support area residents.

There is NO CHARGE to patients or families for the services of Hospice of the Littleton Area. This service is made possible largely through the generous support provided by the twelve (12) towns that we serve. Without the support of Town Funding we would be unable to continue to provide services to the many patients and families we serve.

Your support of Hospice of the Littleton Area is greatly appreciated as we enter our eighth year of providing care to residents of area communities.

Respectfully submitted,

Holly Lakey, Director

## TRI-COUNTY COMMUNITY OUTREACH REPORT

Outreach is the field services arm of the Tri-County Community Action Program. The purpose of this program is to assist low-income, elderly and handicapped persons to solve individual problems and to meet their needs through individual and/or group self-help efforts. Outreach Coordinators accomplish this purpose by providing information, counseling, referrals, guidance, organizational assistance, individual counseling and by effectively linking and utilizing community resources. If possible, we also may assist with Emergency Fund dollars in the form of vouchers.

Last year, the following assistance (client service units) was provided by the CAP Outreach Program in Littleton.

| CATEGORY          | TYPE OF ASSISTANCE  | CLIENT SERVICE UNITS |
|-------------------|---|----------------------|
| Food              | Emergency food supplies, Food Stamps, Government surplus foods, consumer education, food baskets, nutrition | 317                  |
| Energy*           | Electrical disconnects, out-of-fuel, Weatherization, woodstove, fuel wood, home repairs, furnaces           | 36                   |
| Homeless          | Homeless or in imminent danger of being homeless  | 24                   |
| Housing           | Emergency placements, furnishings, loans, home improvements, tenant/landlord relations                      | 62                   |
| Budget Counseling | Money management, debt management, financial planning   | 58                   |
| Health            | Medicare, Medicaid, Mental Health, Dental, Home Health, Emergency Response Units, Substance Abuse           | 10                   |
| Income            | Job Corps, employment referrals, job training, welfare referral   | 78                   |
| Transportation    | Emergency rides, car pools  | 4                    |
| Legal Assistance  | Information and referral to Legal Aid   | 48                   |
| Other             | Clothing, education, domestic violence, children's services   | 56                   |
| TOTALS:           |   | 693                  |

\*Does not include Fuel Assistance

Because of your support and that of other surrounding towns, we were able to keep our Littleton Outreach office open through the entire year. As a result, we were also able to leverage the following funds and/or provide the following services or products to the low-income people of your area:

| LITTLETON/EASTON AREA                         | Funds or Products Provided |               |               |
|---|----------------------------|---------------|---------------|
|   | # Households               | # Individuals | \$ Amount     |
| FEMA (Emergency Food & Shelter)               | 20                         | 56            | \$ 3,124.00   |
| USDA (Food products distributed-retail value) | 70                         | 699           | 1,151.00      |
| Emergency Fund & Food Pantry Assistance       | 82                         | 365           | 1,826.00      |
| Homeless-Emergency Food &/or Shelter          | 27                         | 68            | 8,198.00      |
| Volunteer Hours @ \$4.25/hour                 | <u>      </u>              | <u>      </u> | <u>957.00</u> |
| A. OUTREACH TOTAL:                            | 199                        | 1,188         | \$15,256.00   |

Please note that these funds are in addition to the approximately \$4,000.00 Community Services Block Grant matching funds that are applied to each Outreach Coordinator's salary and other local office expenses. Your continued financial support is needed to insure the availability of these dollars for local use and to help in providing these essential social services in your community.

Also, our Outreach Coordinators did the application intake work for Fuel Assistance and Weatherization. As a result, the residents of your town received the following assistance from the Community Action Program this past winter:

|   | # Households | # Individuals | \$ Amount        |
|---|--------------|---------------|------------------|
| FUEL ASSISTANCE   | 309          | 747           | \$ 91,541.00     |
| WEATHERIZATION  | <u>15</u>    | <u>58</u>     | <u>22,383.00</u> |
| B. ENERGY TOTALS:   | 324          | 805           | \$ 113,924.00    |
| GRAND TOTAL ALL ASSISTANCE:<br>(A. & B.) For July 1, 1995-June 30, 1996 | 523          | 1,993         | \$ 129,180.00    |
| EASTON C.A.P. CLIENTS   | # Households | # Individuals | \$ Amount        |
| FUEL ASSISTANCE   | 7            | 16            | \$ 2,099.00      |
| WEATHERIZATION  | <u>1</u>     | <u>1</u>      | <u>500.00</u>    |
| TOTAL:  | 8            | 17            | \$ 2,599.00      |



**EMERGENCY TELEPHONE NUMBER**

**9-1-1**

**POLICE - FIRE  
MEDICAL EMERGENCY**

**POLICE EMERGENCY**

**9-1-1**

**POLICE OFFICER**

Robert Every - 823-8090

**FIRE CHIEF**

Charles Casey

**FIRE WARDEN**

Michael Valcourt

**TOWN CLERK'S HOURS**

Monday Morning  
10:00 a.m. - 12 Noon

Thursday Afternoon  
4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Dogs must be licensed by May 1, 1997

An up-to-date

**DOG LICENSE & RABIES CERTIFICATE NUMBER**  
is required in Easton to License a dog.

**There is a \$1.00 Penalty for every month past May 1, 1997  
and a \$15.00 Penalty if dogs are not licensed by June 1, 1997.**

Rebecca M. Ernst  
Special Collections  
UNH Library  
18 Library Way  
Durham, N.H. 03824-3592

